

A photograph of a brick gateway at dusk. The gateway has two main pillars topped with spherical lights. A brick wall extends to the right, featuring the words "NORFOLK STATE UNIVERSITY" in large, raised letters. The scene is illuminated by warm streetlights and the ambient light of the twilight sky.

VIRGINIA'S HBCUS: GATEWAYS TO SOCIAL MOBILITY AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

VIRGINIA SENATE FINANCE AND APPROPRIATIONS
HIGHER EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE HEARING

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NORFOLK STATE
UNIVERSITY



NORFOLK STATE: A TRACK RECORD OF SUCCESS

An 85-year history of
providing access, affordability,
and success to a diverse
community of students

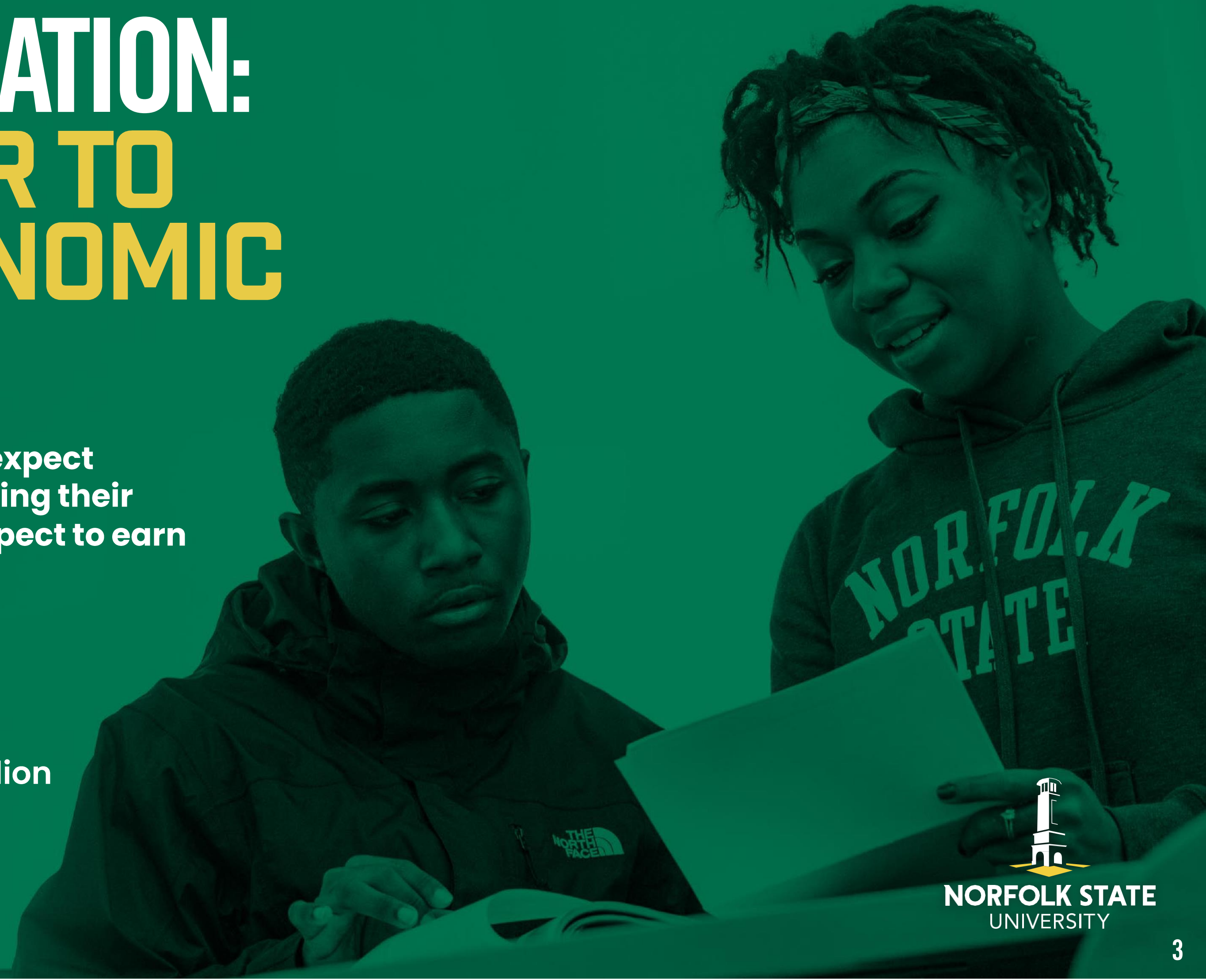
- Virginia's largest Historically Black College and University and a *U.S. News and World Report* Top 20 HBCU
- A recognized leader in the Arts, Cybersecurity, and Health Professions

- Economic engine in Hampton Roads and across Virginia with revenues exceeding \$200 million, more than 1,200 employees and 5,400 students

HIGHER EDUCATION: THE LADDER TO SOCIO-ECONOMIC MOBILITY

While high school graduates can expect on average to earn \$1.2 million during their lifetime, college graduates can expect to earn considerably more.

- Bachelor's degree – \$2.1 million
- Master's degree – \$2.5 million
- Doctoral degrees – \$3.4 million
- Professional degrees – \$4.4 million



THE HBCU ADVANTAGE:

DELIVERING ACCESS, AFFORDABILITY, AND SUCCESS

- HBCUs make up just three percent of the country's colleges and universities, but enroll 10 percent of all African American students, and produce almost 20 percent of all African American graduates
- \$14.8 billion in national economic impact produced annually, and 134,090 jobs created for local and regional economies
- HBCUs outperform other institutions in retaining and graduating first-generation, low-income African American students
- 25% percent of African American graduates with STEM degrees come from HBCUs



VIRGINIA'S HBCUS: MOVING THE COMMONWEALTH *FORWARD*

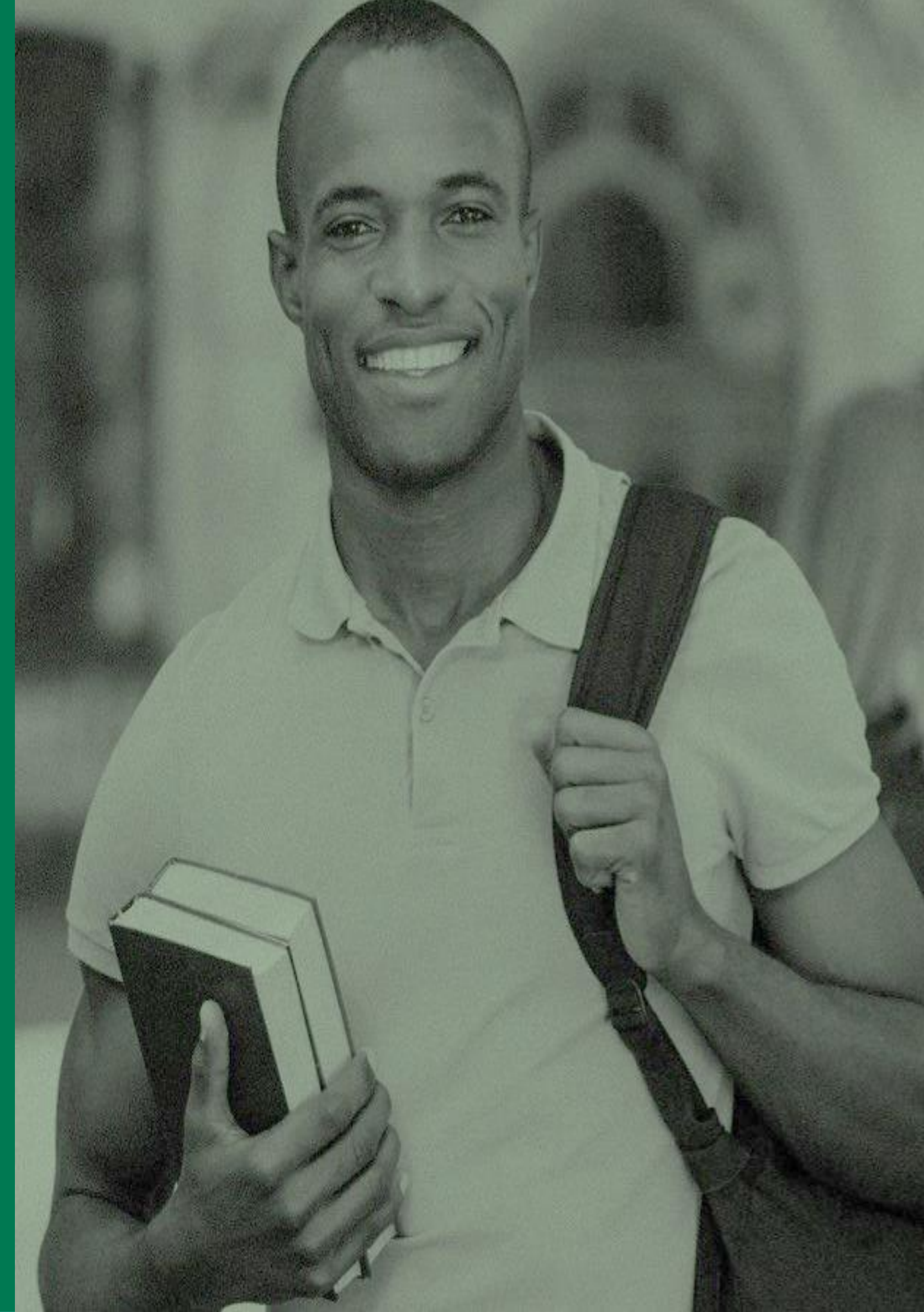
- Virginia's HBCUs serve as institutions of choice for students of color, who make up 34% of the Commonwealth's college age student population.
- The Commonwealth's five HBCUs produce more than \$913 million in annual economic impact and create over 8,404 jobs that help to strengthen local communities.
- Graduates of Virginia's HBCUs can expect to collectively earn more than \$9.3 billion during their lifetime.
- HBCUs are major producers of STEM graduates helping to advance diversity in one of the fastest growing sectors of Virginia's economy.



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A FOCUS ON ACCESS AND AFFORDABILITY

- 69.5% of NSU students are Pell Eligible – the second largest Pell Eligible student population in Virginia.
- Norfolk State is one of Virginia's most affordable four-year public institutions. Pell Cost of Attendance is \$26,710 for in-state and \$38,638 for out-of-state.
- NSU's Virginia College Affordability Network (VCAN) provides up to 300 Pell Eligible students residing within a 25-mile radius of campus with no-cost tuition.
- Each year, NSU provides more than \$8.5 million in institutional aid to help students close the cost of attendance gap.
- \$2.5 million in COVID-19 Relief funds were used to forgive outstanding student account balances for Fall 2021.



A FOCUS ON STUDENT SUCCESS

- Earning a college degree is one of the strongest catalysts for social mobility. NSU's Pell retention and graduation rates are 73% and 42% respectively.
- This year, NSU secured more than \$7 million in partnerships with leading corporations such as Apple, Netflix, Amazon, IBM, Bank of America, Dominion Energy, Virginia Natural Gas, and others to provide students with access to internships and scholarship support.
- For AY 2021–2022, NSU will implement a new professional academic advising model that will provide intrusive advising and faculty mentorship to enhance student retention and graduation.



EMBRACING A NEW NORMAL: HOW VIRGINIA'S HBCUS WILL EVOLVE IN A POST PANDEMIC LANDSCAPE

- COVID-19 has permanently changed the higher education landscape. There will be no return to the *status quo*.
- The delivery of immersive educational experiences using innovative virtual technology is the future of higher education.
- As students, parents, and policymakers demand more from a college degree, there will be a greater focus on internships and work-based learning opportunities that translate to jobs upon graduation.



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VIRGINIA'S HBCUS: ADVANCING DIVERSITY, SOCIAL MOBILITY, AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

- As the Virginia General Assembly reconvenes to consider plans for allocating \$4.3 billion in federal *American Rescue Plan* funds, Virginia's HBCUs must be a top funding priority. These new resources provide policymakers with a unique opportunity to:
 - Address historic and longstanding inequities in state funding support for Virginia's HBCUs – institutions that have a track record of improving the lives of the Commonwealth's underserved communities.
 - Increase state support for student financial assistance to help expand access to a college degree and reduce student debt load post-graduation.



STAY CONNECTED

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